

CollegeBoard.org Great site to help find and pay for a college education.



According to their website, "The College Board is driven by a single goal — to ensure that every student has the opportunity to prepare for, enroll in and graduate from college." This tutorial will show you have to use CollegeBoard's site to find the perfect school and hopefully ways to help pay for it! Don't forget, going to college isn't just for kids!

Searching for a College

The first step is to head over to <u>www.collegeboard.com</u>. From there, click on the "College Search" option at the top of the page.

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CollegeBoard will now walk you through finding the best college for you. As you can see, they focus on six different areas of interest.



Each section will offer advice and guiding questions on what option to choose. They even have videos you can watch explaining all the different options.

Kinds of Colleges

Most students start by thinking about the kind of college they want to attend. As you do so, keep in mind that you have lots of options. More than 1,600 colleges — mostly community colleges — accept almost all high school graduates.

Begin by considering these questions:

- Do I want to go to a two-year or four-year college? At a twoyear college, students can earn an associate degree. At a fouryear college, students can earn a bachelor's degree. Many students begin at a two-year college on the path to a bachelor's degree at a four-year college.
- Am I limiting my choices by focusing on whether a college is public or private? Many students exclude private colleges because they think they're more expensive, but that's not always the case. Financial aid can sometimes make private colleges as affordable as public colleges. And private colleges are not always more selective.

Is the kind of college important to you?





Starting at a community college helped me save money

Zach, college junior



Are state colleges always cheaper?

Patricia McWade, Dean of Student Financial Services, Georgetown University



Each section will will pose a few questions. Answer them to the best of your ability.

Once complete, click on the arrow icon to move forward to the next section.



You will go through each category answering questions. In some cases, you will be able to choose more than one answer. Be careful to look closely. Don't worry about making a mistake, you can change your answers later.

Learning Environment



Take It Away

Print this snapshot to guide you as you explore colleges.

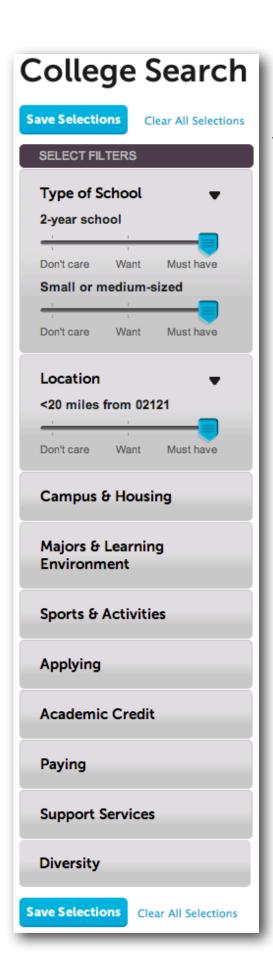
Start your college search with what matters to you.

- 2 year/community college
- Small (<2,000) and/or Medium (2,000–15,000)
- Within 20 miles of 02121

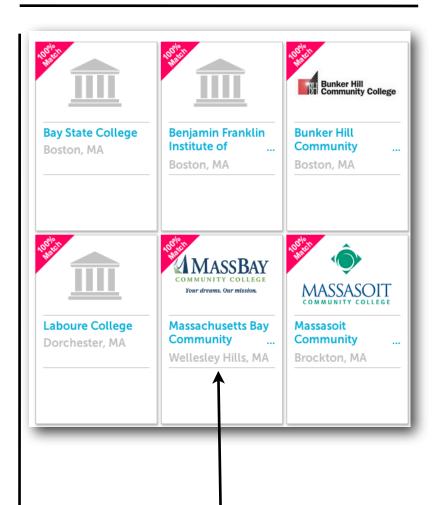
Find colleges

Once complete, you are now presented with your "College Snapshot." CollegeBoard has taken your information and created a list of schools that meet your requirements.

Click on "Find colleges."



The menu bar on the left will allow you manually modify your selections. It will start based on all the answers your provided earlier. If you want to change the importance of any options, feel free to do so here and your list of schools will change.

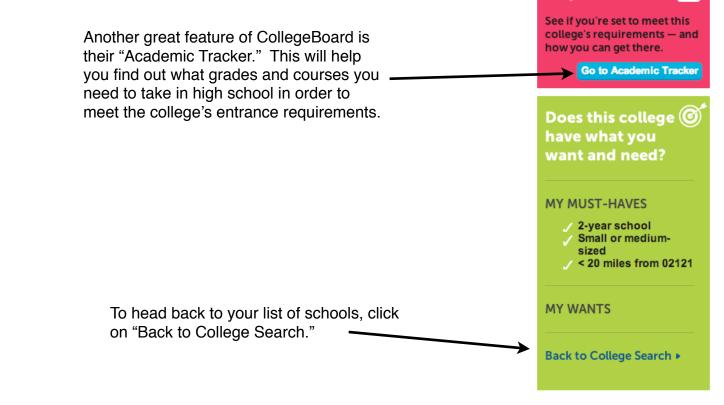


Above are the list of schools that were found based on your preferences. Go ahead and click on any of the ones in your list.



You will now see a really nice and easy to navigate page about your chosen school. Form here you can see important application deadlines, information about the school's academics and student life, and a very clear explanation about the costs of going to this school.

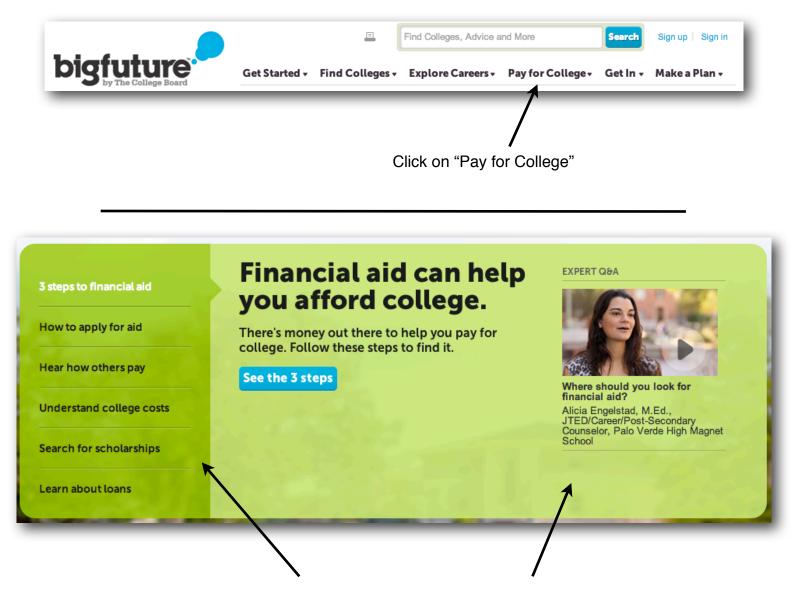
Are you on track?



Paying for College

Paying for school is often the number one issue that families must face. CollegeBoard has a section of their site dedicated to this challenge.

Head to https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org



Here you will see tons of information on everything from how to apply for financial aid to hunting for scholarships. As before, there are even videos you can watch that will help explain the whole process.

If you really like the CollegeBoard site, you might want to consider creating an account. This will allow you to connect to your test scores such as the SAT, manage your college lists, save scholarship information, and much more!

To create an account, head to:

www.collegeboard.org

Student	Professional			
Take me to Stude	nt Home	•		
Username		8		
•••••		?		
Sign In	Sign Up, It's free			
Next Step: The SAT				

Showcase your knowledge, and potential to colleges and scholarship programs. Go >>

College Search

Search by college name

Complete the "Create Your Student Account" form and you're done!

Create Your Student Account

This one account is for everything, including SAT, AP, PSAT/NMSQT, and BigFuture activities, and accurate information.

All information is required unless stated (optional)

General Student Information

First (given) name:	
Middle initial: (optional)	
Last name (surname):	
Gender:	○ Female ○ Male
Date of birth:	Month \$ Day \$ Year \$
Email address:	
Confirm email address:	
High school graduation:	Month A Year A